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ACRONYMS

AA  Action Aid
AF  Aurat Foundation
CSOs  Civil Society Organization
DJs  District and Session Judge
DLACs  District Legal Aid Centers
DRL-US  Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (US State Department)
ECD  Early Childhood Development
ECCE  Early Child Care and Education
ECDNP  Early Childhood Development Network of Pakistan
JJSO  Juvenile Justice System Ordinance
KBA  Karachi Bar Association
LRF  Legal Rights Foundation
NOGs  Nonprofit Organizations
PBC  Pakistan Bar Council
SBC  Sindh Bar Council
SDGs  Sustainable Development Goals
SJA  Sindh Judicial Academy
SOPs  Standard Operating Procedures
SWD  Social Welfare Department
TAF  The Asia Foundation
UN  United Nations
UNDP  United Nations Development Programme
UNODC  United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
USAID  United State Agency for International Development
VSO  Voluntary Service Organization
WWD  Women Development Department
FOREWORD

It is my pleasure to present to you the Annual Report 2016 of Legal Rights Forum (LRF). LRF is striving for strengthening the rule of law, improving access to justice, providing legal aid and legal awareness in Pakistan since 2007. During current year, over 12,450 people including women, children, person with disabilities and minorities were made aware by LRF about their legal rights. LRF organized 02-days capacity building workshop in which 28 District and Session Judges were oriented and sensitized on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) DLECs developed earlier by the LRF. 22 Public Prosecutors, 52 young lawyers and 10 NOGs Senior managers and 12 Civil Society representative across Sindh were capacitated and oriented on SOPs and Rules of DLECs. 3500 copies of IEC material disseminated on DLECs in English and Urdu among Communities. LRF organized coordination meetings with Pakistan Bar Council, Sindh Bar Council and Karachi Bar Association for institutionalization of legal aid mechanism. LRF found Stakeholder's Coordination Forum for sustainability of DLECs and Bar Legal Aid Committee. 07 District Legal Aid Centers (DLACs) were established (05 in Sindh and 02 in Punjab) who provided legal aid to 75 poor and marginalized communities including UTPs and also provided psycho-social support to 121 UTPs and survivors of GBVs in Sindh and Punjab. LRF also capacitated 18 Media Representatives in accurate reporting the human rights violation courts cases. DLAC Hyderabad provided legal assistance to 29 victims telephonically through Helpline and it also referred 24 cases to the relevant Government Departments and Centers.

During this year, LRF has also arranged Policy Dialogues on institutionalization of Legal Aid mechanism; Free and Fair Trail under Constitutional Amendment 10-A; and Rights to Free and Compulsory Education for All Constitutional Amendment 25-A. LRF has also arranged meetings/session with health stakeholders on declaring health as a fundamental right. LRF, during this year, arranged public awareness dialogues to create public demand on Minimum Wages for Home Based Workers; Implementation for Minimum Wages Policy; the Early Child Marriages Restraint Act; Early Childhood Development in Pakistan; and Right to Information Act.

During 2016, we have worked with Government of Pakistan, Government of Sindh, Sindh High Courts, District Judiciary, Pakistan Bar Council, Sindh Bar Council, District Bar Associations, and Civil Society Development partners for strengthening the Rule of Law Access, Access to Justice Quality Education, Early Childhood Development and Labor Rights in Pakistan. We are committed to continue to work towards strengthening the Rule of Law in Pakistan.

I extend my personal thanks to all LRF dedicated team and reiterate my belief that, through our joint efforts, we can build a Democratic, Just, Peaceful, Educated and Inclusive Society.

Dr. Shaikh Tanveer Ahmed
President
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am proud to present the Annual Report 2016 of LRF, reporting on activities that were undertaken during this year (from July 2015 - June 2016). LRF is struggling for improving access to justice and strengthening the Rule of Law in Pakistan. The period of 2015-2016 marks the ongoing journey of LRF towards strengthening Rule of Law in Pakistan. During this year, LRF achieved good results during implementation of all programmes and projects.

I look forward to serving the marginalized communities living in poverty and injustice and adding value as a steward of civil society. I look forward to working with LRF team around Pakistan. I would like to thank all of our supporters, donors, partners, staff members, volunteers, activists and campaigners for their contribution.

We would like to acknowledge support and help from all justice stakeholders especially, Bar Councils, Karachi Bar Association, District Bar Associations nationwide, Judiciary, Prosecution, Police, Women Development, Social Welfare, Education, Law Departments, Sindh Judicial Academy, and LRF Team Members, Fellows Lawyers, Pro-bono lawyers, Interns, Activists and Development local partners of Pakistan. Without support of all justice stakeholders, it would have been impossible to plan and carry out activities and interventions.

LRF is grateful to all legislature from across all political parties who having been supporting our efforts through law and policy reforms especially for providing justice at the grass roots level.

We also acknowledge the support of all mainstream newspapers published in Urdu, Sindhi and English.

Malik Tahir Iqbal
Executive Director
About Legal Rights Forum

The Legal Rights Forum (LRF) is a not-for-profit Forum striving for a progressive and inclusive society by strengthening the Rule of Law; Improving Access to Justice and Access to Health; Protecting Human Rights for all focusing Women, Children, Person with Disabilities, Minorities and Transgender Rights; Reforms in Criminal Justice System, Jails, Police, Labour Laws and Women Land Issues; Promoting Democracy, Democratic Institutions, Good Governance, Alternate Dispute Resolution, Public Interest Litigation, Environmental Rights, Labor Rights, Child Rights, Youth Empowerment and Education for All.

Vision

Democratic, Just, Peaceful and Inclusive Society

Mission

- Advocacy and Awareness for demanding and enabling environment for marginalized communities without any discrimination for peace building, justice, equity, quality education and democratic governance in Pakistan.
- Providing pro-bono legal assistance, psychological counseling, community paralegal trainings of the marginalized group of society as well as survivors of gender based violence.
- Promoting and protecting human rights focusing women and children rights, filling pubic interest litigations, fighting against all kinds of discrimination, gender based violence, human rights abuses, environmental rights by strengthening rule of law and good governance.
- Capacity building of youth as peace building ambassadors; law students and fresh law graduates as legal experts; teachers to maintain quality education; media representatives based on quality and within the legal standards reporting on criminal justice system nationwide through internship; fellowship and advance level training programs; To sensitized all justice and education stakeholders on gender discrimination, human rights abuse, women, child, minorities rights and quality education for all.
- Organizational development by providing legal service and facilitation in information about registration process and amendments such as Society Registration Act, Social Welfare Act, Security Exchange Commission of Pakistan under section 42, Trust Act and legal services extend to CSOs, CBOs, NGOs, INGOs and capacity building of their team members through Civil Society Sustainable Initiatives (CSSI).
Values

- We believe in rule of law, human rights, peace building and dignity.
- We believe in inclusive society where all citizens are free to participate fully in civic, economic, social and cultural life.
- We are committed access to justice and quality education for all, early childhood development without discrimination.
- We believe in addressing inequality, caring, sharing, nurturing of colleagues, friendly environment, mutual trust, respect, participatory decisions and encouragement.

Organizational Structure:

LRF is an independent not-for profit, non-governmental organization that is efficiently, effectively managed on avant-garde standards. LRF has a democratic, transparent and participatory governance structure. The organizational governance structure constitutes an a Board of Governors comprising 09 members headed by a President; an Advisory Council consisting of 18 members headed by a Chief Advisor and Management Committee headed by Executive Director. For purposes of internal governance and decision making LRF has constituted Management Committee made up of 07 members. The significant features of the governance structure are its system of checks and balances and leading role given to the 27 rights based local development partners, law firms, law colleges, pro-bono lawyers, networks, development experts, media experts, human rights and labour rights and staff of the Forum.
During 2015-2016, LRF was awarded different projects focusing on advocacy and awareness, Rule of Law and Access to Justice, Due Process of Law and Fair Trial, Gender Equality, Psycho-Social Counseling, Paralegal Trainings, Legal Aid, Labor Rights, Networking, Advocacy and Awareness Internship, Fellowship, Environmental Rights and Early Childhood Development and Education. Here is a snapshot of the Programs and Projects details for the year from July 1, 2015- June 30, 2016:


“Access to Justice and Legal Empowerment of the Poor” Project in collaboration with Insaf Network Pakistan supported by FCO under EDACE- DAI Project from November 3, 2015 through December 2, 2015.

“District Legal Empowerment Committee Awareness Campaign in Sindh” under Legal Empowerment of the Poor Project in collaboration with Insaf Network Pakistan supported by FCO under EDACE- DAI Project from December 3, 2015 through February 15, 2016.

“Enhancing Women Workers Awareness of their Rights and Labor Laws” for Korangi and Hyderabad District under Gender Equity Program of Aurat Foundation supported by USAID from July 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015. (Reporting period July 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015).

“Early Childhood Development Programme” was supported by ActionAid Pakistan and the Rupani Foundation.
A. PROGRAMMED AND PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The LRF, during 2015-16 has carried out a number of activities under its various programs, thematic areas and projects. Given next is a brief account of some significant activities in this regards.

1. RULE OF LAW AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE

The LRF's Rule of Law and Access to Justice Program aims at strengthening and promoting the Rule of Law, supporting efficient, responsive, accessible, free and fair justice system in Pakistan as a pillar of democratic governance since 2007. LRF currently focuses on capacity building on supply and demand side of justice stakeholders. LRF has also been providing legal awareness, legal aid and legal assistance, psycho social support, counseling to women, children (and victim of gender base violence), labor workers, persons with disabilities, minorities and transgender. LRF has also established District Legal Aid Centers (DLACs) in 05 districts in Sindh including Karachi, Hyderabad, Thatta, Sukkur and Jacobabad and 02 in Punjab including Lodhran and Muzaffargarh.

Capacity Building and Gender Sensitization for Justice Stakeholders
LRF conducted capacity building, orientation and gender sensitization workshops during this year for Judicial Officers, Lawyers, Prosecutors, Police, Probation Officials and Medico Legal Officers across Pakistan.

Development of SOPs of District Legal Empowerment Committees
LRF has developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) of District Legal Empowerment Committees (DLECs) to ensure inexpensive and expeditious justice to all poor and marginalized communities. These SOPs were developed with the collaboration of Sindh High Court and Sindh Judicial Academy.

28 District & Session Judges were oriented on DLECs.
LRF, in collaboration with High Court of Sindh and Sindh Judicial Academy, organized a 02-days Orientation and Capacity Building Workshop on above mentioned developed SOPs of DLECs in order to help provide legal aid to the poor and marginalized victims across Sindh. In this workshop, 28 District and Session Judges were oriented and sensitized on SOPs of the DLECs. This workshop was held from February 12-13, 2016 at Sindh Judicial Academy, Karachi.
Capacity Building of Lawyers across Sindh

LRF, with the support of Sindh Bar Council, Karachi Bar Association and Malir Bar Association, has organized 02 Orientation and Capacity Building Workshops in Karachi and Malir Bar Association on developed SOPs of DLECs for providing free legal aid to the poor and marginalized communities. In both workshops, 52 Lawyers were oriented and sensitized on SOPs and Rules of DLECs. This workshop was held on January 20, 2016 at Karachi Bar Association and January 22, 2016 at Malir Bar Association.

Capacity Building of Public Prosecutors across Sindh

LRF, with the support of Prosecutor General Office Sindh and Criminal Prosecution Services Office Sindh, has organized 01 orientation and capacity building workshop in Karachi on developed SOPs of District Legal Empowerment Committee for providing free legal aid to the poor and marginalized communities. In this workshop, 22 Prosecutors were oriented and sensitized on SOPs and Rules of DLECs. The workshop was held on November 22, 2015 in Karachi.

Coordination meeting with Pakistan Bar Council, Sindh Bar Council and Karachi Bar Association

LRF has organized a coordination meeting with newly elected representative of Pakistan Bar Council, Sindh Bar Council and newly/previous representatives of Karachi Bar Association for sustainability of DLECs and Bar Free Legal Aid Committee in Sindh on February 8, 2016 at Karachi. The main purpose of the coordination meeting was to sharing importance of the DLECs as sustainable legal aid mechanism and taking their support to more activation of DLECs and also to develop recommendations by stakeholder legal experts from the field of law as a way forward to strengthen and improving Access to Justice in Pakistan.
Role of Karachi Bar Association to sustainability of DLECs

Mr. Shujat Hussain Vice President of Karachi Bar Association said that KBA will support very actively to sustainability of DLEC in Karachi. He shared that Distract and Session Judge East had called a meeting last week for the proper implementation of the DLECs in Karachi to support the poor and deserving litigants in the city. He showed his commitment KBA will continually support to the activation and sustainability of the DLECs.

Role of Sindh Bar Council to sustainability of DLECs

Barrister Salahuddin Vice Chairman Sindh Bar Council (SBC) said that this initiative is very important for the poor litigants support. He said that SBC play pivotal role for the implementation of the DLECs rules because it is the active member of the DLECs. He also said that SBC had a free legal aid committee unfortunately it is not actively worked. He said that “I will my best try to regulate all these committees especially Legal Aid Committee who is existing in Sindh Bar Council. He said that also firstly lawyers should engaged for free legal aid after some time they are not appear before the court. Haider Imam Razine Member Sindh Bar Council said that he will play actively role for the implementation of this free legal aid committee. He also said that SBC is a statuary body for the Bars. He said that Provincial Government is responsible to support the Bar Councils so that it will play pivotal role for the functioning of rotten activities. Mr. Naeem Qurashi, member SBC, Mr. Hakim Shaikh, Member SBC, Mr. Aman u Allha, Member SBC and Mr. Nadeem Qurashi were also appreciate LRF for this initiative he said that he will support you for the promoting legal aid in the Malir, Karachi.
Role of Pakistan Bar Council for free Legal Aid Committee under PBC Rules 1999

Muhammad Aqil, Member Pakistan Bar Council said that under PBC rules 1999 every Bar Council must established the Bar Free Legal Aid Committee. He also said in all over the world free legal aid lawyers are available for the support of poor litigants. Poor litigants filled the simple form of free legal aid committee government should financial support to the lawyers accordingly case. In every case fees of lawyers vary case to case.

Abdul Fiaz Ahmed, Chairman Executive Committee Pakistan Bar Council (KPK) said that Pakistan Bar Council will full support to free legal aid. He suggested Government should support to PBC especially for free legal aid committees. He said that PBC will full support to LRF and INP for the access to justice.

Mr. Anwer Mansoor Khan, Former Attorney General of Pakistan. He said that free legal aid not exist in Pakistan properly. He said that lawyers are not affording any court fee someone pay the lawyers may be government or any others. He said that free legal aid fund should be create form the government.

Dr. Farough Naseem Vice Chairman PBC said that government should establish permanent grant for free legal aid. He suggest that first PBC will write down the letter with the Provincial Bar Councils along with District Bar Associations for free legal aid fund if they are not response after that they will write down the letter to government Pakistan along with suitable/reasonable time frame for the free legal aid fund. If the government not response on it than we will filed the petition under Article 184(3).

He also said that free legal aid is a fundamental right. He also said that we have 10-A constitutional amendment for free and fair trial, if we will not provide lawyers to the litigants it is the violation of the Article 9 and 14 of Constitution of Pakistan. He also suggested Sindh High Court should be appointed monitoring judge for the free legal aid.
Closing Ceremony of Access to Justice and Legal Empowerment of the Poor Project

LRF organized closing ceremony of Access to Justice and Legal Empowerment of the Poor Project Closing at Karachi. In this ceremony Mr. Mahmood-Ul-Hassan President KBA said that KBA will support very actively to sustainability of DLEC in Karachi. He showed his commitment KBA will continually support to the activation and sustainability of the DLECs. Mr. Naeem Qurashi Member Sindh Bar Council shared practical experience of Bar Council/Association and said that this initiative is very important for the poor litigants support. He also said that Sindh Bar Council had a free legal aid committee unfortunately it is not actively worked. He said that “I will my best try to regulate all these committees especially Legal Aid Committee who is existing in Sindh Bar Council. He suggested only Bar and Bench, Jail and CSOs representative are good DCO should be removing from the Committee. He said that current SBC should be play very important role for the betterment of Lawyers also. Mr. Fahim Ahmed Sidiqi District and Session Judge said that DLECs Rules are very clear for providing Legal Aid to the Poor and disserving litigants. He also said that all the District and Session Judges are start the legal aid the poor litigants. He also said that he wrote the letter for the revision of the Bar Free Legal Aid Committee last week. When he received the bar free legal aid panel of lawyers than he will sent to the approval of Sindh Bar Council and High Courts. All the learned judge are ready to provide legal aid after necessary recommendation from the DCO. He also said that we have received only Rs.200,000/- from the Sindh High Court. He said that he had received four poor litigants application for Legal Aid.

Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Memon Registrar Sindh High Court appreciates LRF this initiative of Legal Empowerment of the Poor. He also said this is a good initiative of Law Justice and Commission of Pakistan for the legal aid and legal Awareness. He also said that these DLECs will support practically manner to the poor litigants. He said that all District and Session Judges are very proactive for the delivery of speedy justice to the litigants. He also said that Sindh High Courts had already too issued the letter all the DJs for support to LRF for A2J. He also promised Sindh High Court will support continuously for proper implementation of the DLECs with true and spirit.

Mr. Justice (R) Ali Aslam Jafri Director General Sindh Judicial Academy firstly he thanked to the LRF for development of the SOPs of DLECs. He also appreciates to the LJCP for the establishment of the DLECs for the legal aid to poor litigants. He also shared in last month we have arranged training workshop on the sensitization of DJs for DLECs. He invited more than 28 DJs for the training from all over Sindh in collaboration with Sindh High Court and LRF. He also said that these initiatives are very important for the support of poor litigants. These initiatives should be regularly functional.
Awareness Campaign on DLECs in Sindh

LRF organized an Awareness Campaign in Sindh on the subject of DLECs. The overall objective of activity was to raise awareness among civil society organizations regarding DLEC’s structure and functions at the district level. During the awareness raising session on DLECs, 12 heads of NGOs and 12 active members of civil society participated and promised their support in sensitizing local civil society organizations regarding their role in the activation of DLECs and promotion of DLECs at community level to ensure access of vulnerable families and women victims to attain free legal aid. The workshop was held on January 27, 2016 in Karachi.

Distribution of IEC material on DLECs

LRF distributed 3500 Information, education and communication (IEC) material including in brochures in English and Urdu medium of languages among the community members and members of civil society. LRF also displayed 20 Boards at Justice Institutions including in posters mounting 8 Urdu and 8 English. The purpose of initiative was disseminating information on law and justice so that the common citizens who visit justice institutions should get necessary information regarding DLEC. The purpose of newspapers dissemination was to raise awareness and advocacy on the importance and utilization of DLEC for accessing information and services on justice and law in Karachi district. The Statistical detail as given below;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.#</th>
<th>Milestones</th>
<th>Activity Target</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>IEC Distribution</th>
<th>Activity Achieved</th>
<th>Total Beneficiary</th>
<th>Target Analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>News Paper distribution for Community (IEC Material 3500 copies – Letter of Distribution from News Paper Agency (English Brochure with English News Paper &amp; Urdu Brochure with Urdu News Paper)</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>Broachers &amp; Pamphlets (Urdu &amp; English)</td>
<td>1500 1500</td>
<td>1500 1500</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>DLEC Awareness Session with Civil Society (8 to 10 NGOs representatives and they can further promote DLEC in their programs – Event Report &amp; Pictures)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>50 50</td>
<td>50 50</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>20 Boards for Justice Institutions (Posters Mounting 8 Urdu and 8 English displayed at various DLEC stakeholders – Distribution Report &amp; Pictures)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Posters (Urdu &amp; English)</td>
<td>10 10</td>
<td>10 10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>IEC distribution in NGOs</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>Broachers &amp; Pamphlets (Urdu &amp; English)</td>
<td>300 300</td>
<td>300 300</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>IEC distribution in CSOs NGOs Own Program</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>Posters (Urdu &amp; English)</td>
<td>350 350</td>
<td>350 350</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>IEC distribution to Community Members / Pasting of Posters at Public Places and Lawyers at Bar (Distribution Report &amp; Pictures)</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>Broachers &amp; Pamphlets (Urdu &amp; English)</td>
<td>150 150</td>
<td>150 150</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Establishment of Justice Coordination Forum

LRF has established Justice Coordination Forum consisting on 15 Rights based organization in Karachi. All the 15 organization representative were participated and show their interest for working this forum. They all agreed this forum and they all showed their commitment work together for the rights. The following members are the Justice Coordination Forum;

Establishment of District Legal Aid Centers in Sindh and Punjab

LRF established 07 District Legal Aid Centers to provide legal aid, psycho-social support and the referral services to poor communities and survivor of Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Sindh and Punjab (Karachi, Hyderabad, Thatta, Sukkur, Jacobabad, Lodhran and Muzaffargarh).

DLACs offered pro-bono legal aid and legal assistance to the Under Trail Prisoner, focusing women, children, minorities, person with disabilities, GBV survivors in selected district of Sindh and Punjab. DLACs service was offered in 07 District of Pakistan. DLACs also provided multiple service such as paralegal training, legal advice, psycho-social support, referral and etc. During year 2015-2016 DLACs provided legal aid to 75 poor and marginalized communities and also provided psycho-socio counseling to 121 GBVs and Human Rights survivors including Women and Children.

LRF-DLAC handled cases in the specific GBV Victim, Child Custody, Minority and Peron with disabilities and Transgender. The summary of nature of court cases are given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Gender M</th>
<th>Gender F</th>
<th>GBV/Family</th>
<th>Juvenile</th>
<th>Transgender</th>
<th>Minorities</th>
<th>PWDs</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karachi</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thatta</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sukkur</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacobabad</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodhran</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muzaffargarh</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
<td><strong>55</strong></td>
<td><strong>50</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>75</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mobile Legal Aid and Legal Awareness Clinics

LRF, through DLACs organized 16 Mobile Legal Aid and Legal Awareness Clinics at Karachi, Hyderabad, Thatta, Umerkot and Mitthi in Sindh. These Clinics were focused on Women and Children Rights. In these Clinics 361 poor and marginalized communities were participated in which 127 men and 234 women were awarded on women and children rights. It also enhanced their basic knowledge about their rights. The summary of these Clinics are as following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Clinics</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>M</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karachi</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thatta</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umorkot</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitthi</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>127</strong></td>
<td><strong>234</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Psycho-Social Counseling

LRF provided the counseling service to 52 peoples during this year through the Toll Free number functioning 24/7 as well as also walk-in complainants. LRF established a separate Counseling Room in its DLACs so that complainants share the problem with full confidence and to maintain confidentially of clients and to avoid any disturbance in the room during the counseling session.

Establishment of District Justice Forum in Karachi and Hyderabad

LRF founded two separate “District Justice Forum” in Karachi and Hyderabad based on local 38 rights based organizations focusing in support and assistance to the Victims of GBV, Persons with Disabilities, Transgender and Minorities. These District Justice Forums will facilitate advocacy campaign broadly involving stakeholders on the relevant policy issues in laws pertaining to Women, Children, GBV, PWDs, Transgender and Minorities. The Forums aims at development of linkages with relevant stakeholders at Karachi and Hyderabad leve
2. CHILDREN RIGHTS

Since 2013, LRF in collaboration with SHED Foundation has been working on Children Rights Program comprising of protection, education and socio psychological empowerment of children and their families. During this year, LRF provided assistance to a number of children and their families in cases of abuse, violence, child labor, missing children, family tracing, ending early child marriage, corporal punishment, birth registration, and education.

During 2015-2016, LRF organized 02 awareness sessions on the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act in collaboration with Social Welfare Department Government of Sindh and Sindh Human Right Commission. LRF provide legal aid to 10 juveniles (children conflict with the law) and provided psychosocial support to 05 juvenile in Karachi and Hyderabad.

Early Childhood Development

Since 2013, LRF has strongly promoted Early Childhood Development in Pakistan. LRF is also founder member of Early Childhood Development Network of Pakistan (ECDNP) and is advocating ECD not only on policy level but also on practice level. LRF as member and secretariat of ECDNP has arranged 01 provincial policy dialogue on ECD in Sindh in collaboration with Education Department Government of Sindh.

Right to Education

LRF believes that the education is the most effective tool to break the cycle of poverty and empower the communities and necessary for social transformation. LRF also promotes and protects ‘education for all’ approach at policy level as a fundamental right of every citizen of Pakistan without any discrimination. LRF had also provided technical support to SHED Foundation’s Care School System in Karachi for capacity building of teachers and capacity development of school management committees to ensure quality education for all. LRF has strong networking, lobbying with education department, curriculum wing and ministries for the proper implementation of the quality education in Sindh.
LRF and Child Rights Movement

LRF is an active member of Child Right Movement (CRM) in Sindh. CRM is a group of civil society organizations which was established with a mission to create an enabling environment for the children through collective advocacy on child rights issues. Its objective is to deal exploitative and abusive situation of children in Pakistan, a group of likeminded NGOs realized that there is an urgent need to start a child rights movement in the country to tackle the widespread violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of children. LRF, being an active member of CRM, organized various consultative meetings during this year and arranged fact finding missions on child abuse cases.

3. YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

In response to the worldwide phenomenon of young men and women calling for meaningful civic, economic, social, legal and political participation, LRF's developed Youth Empowerment Programme (YEP) and set objectives in 2012. This program recognizes the involvement of young men and women in participatory decision-making and development processes as vital to achieving sustainable human development.

LRF under its Youth Empowerment Program is supporting youth engagement in social and policy spheres. LRF believes that young people are key to play a crucial role in achieving the targets set Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. LRF engaged youth for empowerment around Pakistan regardless of gender and religion. LRF strives to empowering youth by supporting efforts to increase their knowledge enhancement on social justice, peace building and human rights. LRF works to ensure that young people from different backgrounds have equal access to knowledge and to promote rule of law, peace, justice and good governance in Pakistan.

During this year, LRF has been providing extensive technical support to Youth Affairs Department Government of Sindh on development of provincial policy and its implementation at district level in Sindh. LRF has been promoting active participation of youth, including the most marginalized and vulnerable in all spheres of society. LRF supported the
capacity development of young people and youth-led organizations, and the development of youth caucuses in government and other bodies. LRF engages youth with relevant stakeholders through outreach, advocacy, thought leadership, and policy debates, in particular in the context of the post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs.

LRF has held a number of Youth Empowerment activities during July 2012-June 2016:

- 40 supporting women and men (youth) to join law enforcement and judicial system in Sindh, Pakistan;
- 50-induction of volunteer as Youth Peace Ambassadors under the Community Resilience Projects;
- 25-Capacity building of youth as community paralegal

LRF also inducted and involved youth as an Intern in its different project activities. In this regards, LRF has signed MOUs with Sindh Muslim Law College, Karachi, Aga Badriduja Law College Sukkur, Jinnah Law College Hyderabad, Government Degree College Malir, Jamshoro and Hyderabad, Criminology and Law Department of University of Karachi and Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Buhto University of Law.

Youth Peace Ambassadors Training Workshops

LRF has inducted Youth Peace Ambassadors across Sindh and conducted Youth Peace Ambassadors training workshops in Karachi, Hyderabad, Mirpurkhas, Mithi, Umerkot and Sukkur. These meeting were conducted with the objective to orient youth about the role of youth in strengthening the local governments and community networks in order to reduce violence against religious minorities and other vulnerable groups and improve access to justice.

4. WOMEN RIGHTS (SOCIO-ECONOMIC-LEGAL EMPOWERMENT)

LRF strongly believes that women should not only be economically empowered but also be empowered intellectually, legally, socially, culturally and psychologically so that they can live their lives with self-confidence and dignity. They can thus play their role productively and positively in making the society prosperous and peaceful.

LRF organized activities related to 16 Days of Activism against GBV on the global theme in Karachi, Hyderabad Thatta, Badin and Sukkur. The events were organized from November 25, 2015 to December 10, 2015. LRF carried out a wide-range of activities focusing on ending violence against women and combating the gender based violence at the grass roots level.

LRF celebrated International Working women's Day on March 8, 2016 in Hyderabad. 140 representatives from right based organizations, Government Official and Hyderabad District Bar Association members highlighted many key aspects of women's struggle and shed lights on all human rights issues being faced by communities all across the globe, especially in Pakistan and what we can do jointly to overcome all these hurdles. Selected young Women Leaders were awarded Shields as a token of appreciation.
Women Economic Empowerment

LRF launched a massive Women Rights to Land Campaign in Sindh. In this regard, LRF initiated massive legal awareness campaign through legal clinics, leaflets and focused group discussion for the implementation of the public land distribution policy of government Sindh 2008. The purpose of this campaign was to sensitize the government of Sindh to develop the proper mechanism for receiving the documentation fee from the public land grantees; and also to advocate to Government of Sindh to initiate third phase of land distribution among women landless haris in Sindh. Therefore, LRF organized 10 meetings with policy level officials, government officials of Land Utilization Department; Land less haris and Project Officials of Sindh for the proper implementation of policies. LRF conducted Focused Group Discussions with stakeholders and civil society representatives to advocate among the stakeholders to initiate next phase of public land distribution for the landless women peasants of Sindh. LRF has also conducted 10 legal awareness clinics in selected Union Councils of Jamshoro, Hyderabad, Thatta, Badin and Sukkur. LRF also printed one thousands leaflet for awareness of public lands grantees of the Sindh.

Women Social Empowerment

LRF has been working for the Women Social Empowerment since 2007. In this year LRF engage more than 150 women for social empowerment across Sindh. Beside this women's economic empowerment refers to the ability for women to enjoy their right to control and benefit from the resources, assets, income and their own time, as well as the ability to manage risk and improve their economic status and well-being.

Women Legal Empowerment

LRF has developed “Training of Trainer's Manual on Legal Empowerment of Women in Sindh” aiming at the enhancement of the protection of women. The TOT Manual was developed for HANDS with the support of Women Development Department Government of Sindh. Legal empowerment strategies can be successfully used for improving women's access to justice in both formal and informal justice systems. Master Trainers were informed of women rights and encouraged to make women aware of laws and practices; they are likely to put pressure on justice systems to better protect basic rights of women.

Training conducted by Master Trainers mobilized a group of social activists and gender experts by building their capacity on gender equality, women legal empowerment and human rights issues in Sindh. The main objective of the training was to increase the knowledge and understanding of participants on gender equality, pro-women laws, women empowerment and human rights; to
create a network of gender and women rights expert's advocates who will push the gender equality and women socio-legal empowerment agenda in the Sindh, Pakistan.

**Training workshop on enhancing capacity of women workers Leadership**

LRF organized a 2-days training workshop on enhancing capacity of women workers Leadership on September 22-23, 2015 of selected women leaders in KATI, Karachi. In this training workshop 16 women workers leaders were selected out of 149 trained women workers in KATI, Karachi. Sessions were organized on various aspects of leadership, time management, resource mobilization, negotiation skills, and communication skills. Significance of district level women workers network and their role in accentuating women overall position in the society is crucial in nature. During this workshop, Group activities were organized to supplement the sessions. The training was conducted in local language in a participatory manner. At the end of the workshop, the participants made their plans to take the message to the communities at the grassroots level. The women workers leaders would create awareness among working women about labor laws, and anti-sexual harassment laws. By this initiative, grass root level reach and knowledge penetration will certainly bring fruitful results in the future.

Ms. Sajida Fyaz, she also focuses that government should Implement Minimum Wage Laws and Women Harassment at Workplace Act in true spirit.

Ms. Noreen said that all factories must work on implementing all labor laws while establishing a committee on women Harassment cases at workplace.

Ms. Samina Naz said that “we are empowered through legal knowledge given through these trainings. She mentioned that training like these should be continued in future so that persistent output can be guaranteed in future.
5. CIVIL SOCIETY SUPPORT INITIATIVE

Civil Society Sustainability Initiatives (CSSI) is a nationwide initiative of LRF towards the strengthening of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Pakistan. Its objective is to facilitate CSOs by creating and sharing information, providing a platform for discussion on achievements, successes, lessons learnt, narrating biographies of successful social development entrepreneurs and capacity building of human resource.

It also helps young civil society professionals, students and new entrants in the development sector. CSSI provides tailor made solutions to CSOs by focusing on their Governance Framework and Organizational Development. CSSI also provides consultation facilities on registration and formation of organizations and creating linkages between organizations. The professional assistance to civil society organizations is also provided regularly through extending inputs on project concept notes, proposal reviews and budgeting. CSSI arranged two programs under the title of Sunahray Din and Baithak. During 2015-2016, CSSI arranged 2-Sunahray Din and 4-Baithak sessions with a number of personalities with different filed of experience.

6. ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS PROGRAM

LRF’s Advocacy and Awareness Program is an ongoing process of supporting and enabling marginalized communities to express their views access to information and service as well as defend and promote their rights and responsibilities.

Under this program LRF, has been a part of advocacy and awareness consortium of CSOs, lobbying with women development department, social welfare department, law department,
political parties and parliamentarians on The Child Marriage Restraint Act and Women Harassment at Workplace Act/public transport and places. LRF also played a vital role in safeguarding the environmental rights. LRF developed and published legal education tool kits, documentaries, brochures and informative pamphlets in Urdu and English languages.

**Radio awareness campaign for Karachi & Hyderabad Stations**

Radio has a pivotal role especially in the developing countries where literacy rate is low, resources are scarce and modes of communication are limited. LRF telecasted FM Radio Programs to educate and sensitize thousands of students on basic legal rights. LRF has been broadcasting public awareness massages on HOT FM 105 Karachi & Hyderabad stations to disseminate voices to more than 100,000 peoples across Sindh.

The legal awareness campaign benefited more than 100,000 people of Sind. LRF was able to create an enabling environment, by affecting changes in the internal /external factors that underpin the local development and empowerment process. For instance by networking with various CBOs, community stake holders, government departments, they were able to provide better coordination, less duplication efforts and wastage of resources as well as unlock of sustainable development, highest goals, synergy by tapping into indigenous leadership abilities. LRF conducted successfully lobbing meetings, awareness workshops, radio programs and distributed leaflet and posters in this regard.

**7. INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

LRF offers internship opportunity to final year law students and fresh law graduates, social science and education department students at national level. It provides an opportunity to the intern’s to equip themselves with professional skills. During 2015-16, LRF has inducted 05 interns in different districts of Pakistan.

**8. FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

The Fellowship is offered to those law graduates who successfully complete their internship and who have shown interest in the vision and mission of LRF and willing to pursue pro-bono legal services, community paralegal trainings and legal awareness to the communities. The Fellows has formed the hub of LRF presence through their activism at grass roots level in strengthening the Rule of Law and promoting democracy, justice, educated, peaceful and inclusive society. During 2015-16, LRF has inducted 02 fellows in different districts of Pakistan.
B. Networking and Linkages

Networking and Linkages with Government and other Stakeholders
LRF is an active Member of different Governments Committees such as;
1. Gender Committee of Sindh Human Rights Commission, Government of Sindh
3. Legal Committee of Sindh Commission on the Status of Women, Government of Sindh
4. Member, District Legal Empowerment Committees (DLECs)
5. Member, Gender Based Violence and Minorities Rights Committee, Government of Sindh

LRF’s Self Networking Initiatives
LRF is founder members of the followings networks alliance:
1. Women Lawyers Network
2. Women Workers Network
3. Early Childhood Development Network Pakistan

Networking & Linkages with Development Partners
 Networking and Linkages focus on good communications and partnerships with others to serve people with mutual interest. LRF believes in joint actions, mutual help and coordination in achieving common objectives through sharing of information, expertise and resources. To achieve the objective, organization has become active player in different networks. Linkages help the organization keep up with advances in pertinent fields, and give access to wide-ranging sources of up-to-date information within each area of the organization's work.

LRF is an active member of following advocacy Networks:
1. Child Rights Movement
2. Early Childhood Development Network Pakistan
3. Peace and Justice Network Pakistan
4. Alliance Against Child Marriages

Establishment of Women and Land Rights Network
 As part of its Women Public Land Guarantees Campaign, LRF established/founded the 'Women and Land Rights Network' with the collaboration of civil society organization Sindh and Punjab. The main purpose of this network is to create a demand on holistic land reforms in Pakistan focusing on raising awareness amongst women parliamentarians' caucus, women lawyers,
media, human rights defenders on women land rights and linked grass roots level to national levels in order to influence policy and legal framework. This network will also extend: a) Advocacy and lobbying with political influential, parliamentarians, government representative, representatives of Board of Revenue and other departmental officials to start III phase of public land distribution in women landless peasants across Sindh. b) Monitored the implementation of the Government Sindh Land Distribution Programs Phase I and II; c) conduct study that highlight issues, challenges and impact on women access to land; address public land conflicts faced by women public land guarantees and provided pro-bono legal assistance to the women if needed.

C. Publications

LRF has published a number of resource material to communicate its research and awareness with the policy makers as well as the public at large. Publications were usually printed on paper (like reports, newsletters and books), but were also made available online on LRF website and were delivered via the internet. Listed below are titles of some salient publications published during 2015-16:

1. Training Manual on Legal Empowerment of Women in Sindh
2. District Legal Aid Center (DLAC) Promotional Material
D. Media Coverage

Press Conference Karachi, December 31, 2015

Labor laws in the country are inherently biased against women workers in the informal and the formal sectors. The issue was highlighted in a media conference organized by LRF and Home Net Pakistan on 31 December, 2015 at Karachi Press Club. The speakers said that there are no first aid facilities, anti-harassment committees and safety nets for women workers. Their right to association is compromised due to lack of trade unions and their wages are far less than what a male worker would get for the same amount of work. They pointed out that maternity laws are applied partially or not at all and employment of contractors is rampant for these workers.

Mr. Malik Tahir Iqbal, Executive Director, Legal Rights Forum said that the labour laws in the country were inherently biased against women and the government was working on making them women-friendly. Referring to a gender-based survey of existing labour laws, he told the media personnel that there was very little for women workers in these laws. Most of these laws were drafted in times when it was hard to perceive women as a worker, he added.

Nuzhat Shirin said the organization will undertake several national and provincial level activities supporting and facilitating the district, provincial and national level advocacy initiatives for women in the informal and the formal sectors. Woman workers from both the formal and informal sector will be taken onboard and brought together on one platform. “This is an innovative mechanism for their collective engagement in the campaign for their rights which they hope will deliver fruits,” she added. She said that this bias is further reflected in the existing labor laws and policies at all levels in Pakistan these are gender biased and are blind towards women workers in general. “The conditions of women workers from informal sector and those working on piece rate (Home Based Workers) are even more problematic, due to the absence of any formal law or policy”.

Representative from Aurat Foundation Karachi said that USAID and Aurat Foundation under its Gender Equity Program (GEP) took an initiative to enhance women workers awareness about their rights and labor laws. To meet this objective Gender Equity Program provided assistance to 14 partners all across Pakistan. The issues related to discrimination against women workers in Pakistan and their non-inclusion in labour laws and policies came into limelight at the meeting.
Media Briefing on DLECs: Access to justice still far from poor

Malik Tahir welcomes all the media person especially court reports and shared the objectives of this median briefing. He gives the brief introduction of District Legal Empowerment Committees (DLECs) established as per LJCP Statutory Notification on 2nd July, 2011 S.R.O 684 (1)/2011 In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 9 of Law & Justice Commission of Pakistan Ordinance (XIV of 1979). The Law & Justice Commission of Pakistan made the rules for constitution and regulating the functions of the District Legal Empowerment Committees (DLECs). The main purpose of DLECs is to provide free legal aid to the deserving litigants who might otherwise be unable to obtain legal aid or assistance for protecting his genuine legal rights or interests involved in litigation on account of his limited financial resource. The committee shall be constituted by the Law Justice and Commission of Pakistan with the concurrence of the concerned High Court and provincial government. DLECs having composition of District and Sessions Judge as a Chairperson of the committee, Deputy Commissioner, Superintendent District/Central Jail, President District Bar Association and a representative of the civil society will work as member. The committee shall hold its meeting at least once in a month to consider application of the deserving litigants for grant of legal aid for perusing their cases in the courts. The main objective of the DLECs is to provide legal aid to the vulnerable, poor deserving litigants. The legal aid may be extending in professional fee/honorarium payable to lawyers; court fee; copying charges; process fee etc. Any deserving litigant can submit requests in writing to the Chairperson or in a manner prescribe by the District Legal Empowerment Committee, beside Superintended District Jail may also forwarded applications of the under trial or convicted prisoners, or any person confined in jail in relation to civil proceedings for free legal aid. The applications must be accompanied by CNIC or any other document of identify. The Committee in consultation with the Vice Chairman Provincial Bar Council, President District Bar Association and approval of the Chief Justice of High Courts shall maintain a list of legal practitioners having five years standing to be appointed the purpose. The committee shall determine the fee of the legal practitioner and it may vary from case to case, however it shall not be more than Rs. 20,000/. The committee in not satisfy with the performance of the appointed lawyers may substitute him/her with another lawyers and delete his name from the list. The committee shall examine the performance of each legal practitioner on annul basis and may amend the list on the basis of their efficiency and output.

He said that DLECs programme called for creating environment to ensure justice to the poor, oppressed and vulnerable sections of society. He also appreciated LJCP to the formation of DLECs since 2012. Concerned High Courts and Provincial government established DLECs in all concerned districts. All District Bar Association nominated a panel of lawyers would be provided for free legal aid to disserving litigants. He said that now a time poor litigants could file simple
applications along with a copy of their CNIC with relevant district and session judge for free legal support. The judge would ask the committee concerned to approve application and fix fee for lawyer to plead case of the litigant. He said that they were campaigning for pro bono culture in courts as the poor could get free and speedy justice.

The Federal Government established the Access to Justice Fund to strengthen the under resourced judiciary, improve service delivery and provide access to justice to the vulnerable group. The Fund is an endowment, being invested in the government approved schemes and the income generated is disbursed 7 windows as per special percentage. The fund is located with LJCP which provides secretariat support to AJDF. It is being managed by a governing body head by CJP and the Honorable CJ’s High Courts, Secretary Finance, Secretary Law Justice, Parliamentary affairs and secretary LJCP are its member.

One of the main objectives of this fund is to educate people in the use of law and provide legal aid to the vulnerable. The share the window in the income of AJDF is 13.5% (or 4.05 of AJDF annual income) shall be used in legal aid activities at district level. The sized of the future grants to be made available to the committee shall depend on the income/profit generated by the endowment fund being invested by the LJCP.
E. Financial Report

LEGAL RIGHTS FORUM
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>June 30, 2016</th>
<th>June 30, 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(all amount in PKR)</td>
<td>(all amount in PKR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>2,661,903</td>
<td>773,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Expenditures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>235,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salary and allowances</td>
<td>1,489,650</td>
<td>277,534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar &amp; workshop expenses</td>
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<td>27,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilities expense</td>
<td>27,114</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visiting expense</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal &amp; Professional Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent, rates &amp; taxes</td>
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<td>Printing and Stationary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repairs &amp; Maintenance</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2,716,733)</td>
<td>(687,814)</td>
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Surplus / (Deficit) for the year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>June 30, 2016</th>
<th>June 30, 2015</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(54,830)</td>
<td>85,548</td>
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</table>

The annexed notes from 1 to 6 form an integral part of these financial statements.

President

Secretary

Finance Secretary
Legal Rights Forum (LRF) is a registered not-for-profit and non-governmental organization working since 2007, formally registered during 2011-12 under the Society Registration Act 1860 in Karachi. LRF envisions a democratic, just, peaceful and inclusive society. Its mission is to promote and protect democracy and democratic institutions for the rule of law, access to justice, peace & harmony, human rights and good governance. LRF is working to advance and strengthen the rule of law; facilitate revamping and reforms in the criminal justice system; and support sustainable development leading to socio-economic and legal empowerment of marginalized communities (women, youth, children, person with disabilities, minorities and transgender). LRF also works towards highlighting anomalies in the prevailing discriminatory legislative frameworks and strengthens joint actions.